

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

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GOVERNOR'S LILAC COMMISSION ANNOUNCES 2003 PHOTO CONTEST

The Governor's Lilac and Wildflower Commission announces the 2003 Lilac Photo Contest is underway, with this year's winning prizes ranging from a whale watch excursion to train tickets to Crawford Notch on the Conway Scenic Railroad.

The Lilac and Wildflower Commission is chaired by NHDOT landscape specialist supervisor Guy Giunta, who says the goal of the annual lilac photo contest is to develop public appreciation of New Hampshire's official state flower.

The contest is open to amateur photographers, who may submit up to three 4 x 6 inch or 3-1/2 by 5 inch color photographs of lilacs taken in a New Hampshire setting during the 2003 lilac season. Photos must be accompanied by negatives, a specific description of the photographic location and the variety of lilac pictured, if known. The postmark deadline for the contest is June 30, 2003. Entry forms can be obtained at any New Hampshire Welcome Center and rest area, Blue Seal and Agway stores, most McDonalds, Photo's Plus Stores, Cameron's Sod Farm, Canobie Lake Park, The Common Man Restaurants, The 1875 Inn at Tilton, Conway Scenic Railroad, and the Mount Washington Cruise Weirs Beach.

Entries may be dropped off at any Photos Plus location, or can be sent to Photos Plus, 861 Hanover St., East Side Plaza, Manchester, NH 03104-5419, ATTENTION: LILAC PHOTO CONTEST/Doug Anderson.

The grand prize in this year's photo contest is a deep-sea fish or whale-watching excursion for up to six passengers, a \$500 value. A total of 12 donated prizes will be awarded.

The Governor's Lilac Commission was established in 1984 by Governor John Sununu to promote extensive planting of lilacs throughout the New Hampshire. In an effort to help beautify New Hampshire's highways, the Commission has taken on the additional responsibility of purchasing and assisting in the planting of wildflowers.

For more information, interested amateur photographers can contact Guy Giunta at (603) 271-6476.

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